

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- A fiber-optic cable includes a conductive coating formed around an
- 5 optical fiber. The conductive coating may be in the shape of a band or ring located at a terminal end of the fiber, or may extend along the entire length of the fiber or a portion thereof. For protection purposes, the fiber is covered with a buffer made from a plastic or polymer. The fiber-optic cable may be attached to a plug or receptacle of a connector. Preferably, the cable is
- 10 attached to the plug. Under these circumstances, the receptacle would be equipped with a verification circuit for confirming that the plug has been properly installed into the receptacle housing. An electronic device may be used to alert a user as to whether proper installation has occurred. In addition to providing an indication that an optical connection has been made, the
- 15 conductive coating may be adapted to carry electrical signals. In this way, the fiber-optic cable would operate as an electrical transmission line and an optical transmission line.